

SECTION 806 -- SODDING

806.01 -- Description

1. This work shall consist of furnishing, transporting, fertilizing, watering, and placing bluegrass sod in accordance with these *Specifications*, the plans, and the special provisions.

2. Sodding operations shall not be performed between May 1 and September 10, when the ground is frozen, or when weather conditions are not favorable for growth as determined by the Engineer.

806.02 -- Material Requirements

1. The Contractor shall place the sod immediately after the finish grading work has been completed on a section of the project. However, the finish grading must be approved by the Engineer before the sod is placed.

2. The sod shall be obtained from a source approved by the Engineer.

3. The sod shall have been grown from more than one variety of bluegrass seed, grown specifically for the production of bluegrass sod, and maintained by accepted sod production methods.

4. a. The sod shall be mowed and raked to remove stems, sticks, and grass clippings before cutting.

b. The sod shall be cut to a depth of approximately 3/4 inch.

c. All sod shall be free from noxious weeds and all other weeds.

d. Extreme care shall be taken in cutting, handling, transporting, and laying the sod to avoid unnecessary damage to and loss of earth from the roots of the sod.

e. The sod shall not have dry or dead edges.

5. a. The composition and application rates for pre-sodding fertilizers are:

(1) Rate of application of inorganic fertilizer shall be:

Rate of Application Per 1,000 Square Yard (Min.)	
Available Nitrogen (N ₂)	8 pounds
Available Phosphoric Acid (P ₂ O ₅)	23 pounds

(2) Rate of application of granular urea-formaldehyde fertilizer shall be:

Rate of Application Per 1,000 Square Yard (Min.)	
Nitrogen (Total Available)	45 pounds

b. The composition and rate of application of post-sodding inorganic fertilizer shall be:

Rate of Application Per 1,000 Square Yards (Min.)	
Available Nitrogen (N ₂)	8 pounds
Available Phosphoric Acid (P ₂ O ₅)	23 pounds

6. The acceptable pre-emergent weed control chemicals are:

a. Siduron. Shall be applied at the midrange of the manufacturer's suggested range. (For example: If the range was 4 to 12 pounds/acre, then the application rate would be 8 pounds/acre.)

b. Dacthal. May be used at the midrange of the manufacturer's suggested range.

c. Other. Any approved and equal weed control chemicals may be used.

806.03 -- Construction Methods

1. a. The area to be sodded is shown in the plans.

b. The Contractor shall clear all areas to be sodded of debris and dead vegetation before the sod bed is prepared.

c. The soil shall not be crusted and the fertilizer shall be incorporated.

d. All erosion shall be filled and loose earth firmed before laying the sod.

e. Topsoil, when specified, shall be spread and tilled into the soil by discing or other methods to the depth shown in the special provisions or the plans.

2. The sod bed shall be approved by the Engineer before laying the sod.

3. The Contractor shall apply pre-sodding fertilizer to the prepared sod bed immediately before sodding.

4. The Contractor shall thoroughly dampen the sod bed before and while placing the sod.

5. The sod shall be laid over the area with strips edge to edge in a compact mass. The sod shall be laid approximately 1 inch below adjoining ground surfaces and flush with the adjoining sod.

6. The Contractor shall roll all sod 1 time, unless on a slope steeper than 1 vertical to 3 horizontal, with a sod roller approved by the Engineer.

7. All sod placed on slopes steeper than 1 vertical to 3 horizontal and in ditch bottoms shall be adequately staked by the Contractor to prevent slippage. The stakes shall be wood-lathe and shall be at least 8 inches in length. Stakes shall be driven flush with the sod line and with the broad face of the stake facing the slope. Other types of stakes may be used with the approval of the Engineer.

8. a. The Contractor shall apply a pre-emergent herbicide of the type shown in the special provisions over the top of the sod immediately after laying and fertilizing and before the sod is watered.

b. The rate of application shall be as shown in Subsection 806.02.

c. The pre-emergent is not required on sod laid after September 1.

9. The Contractor shall thoroughly water all sod immediately after placing fertilizer and/or pre-emergent herbicide. Watering may also be required during the work operations to cool the sod.

10. The Contractor shall apply the post-sodding fertilizer at the end of the establishment period.

11. Establishment Period:

a. (1) The Contractor shall keep all sodded areas thoroughly watered for 30 calendar days after laying.

(2) Watering required by the Engineer after 30 days will be extra work.

b. All sod must be moist and growing at the time of acceptance.

c. If, at the end of the establishment period, the growth or stand of the sod is unacceptable, the sod shall be rejected.

d. (1) Rejected sod may be overseeded with a mixture of rye and bluegrasses or other suitable mixtures at rates determined by the Engineer.

(2) The overseeded sod shall not be accepted until the quality of the overseeding work can be determined by the Engineer.

(3) (i) The Contractor shall water overseeded sod for 30 calendar days.

(ii) Watering required by the Engineer after 30 days will be extra work.

(4) There will be no extra compensation for overseeding or watering the areas where the sod was rejected.

806.04 -- Method of Measurement

The sod shall be measured for payment by the number of square yards of surface area of sod furnished and placed.

806.05 -- Basis of Payment

1. Pay Item	Pay Unit
Sodding	Square Yards (SY)

2. Payment is full compensation for all work prescribed in this Section.